

Georg-August-Universität Göttingen
Division of Grassland Science
PhD Researcher Grazing Ecology

The Division of Grassland Science at the Faculty of Agriculture of the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen is looking to fill the position of a PhD student starting now, with a limited contract of 3 years. The salary is in accordance with the German public service salary scale (E 13 TV-L) with 50% of the regular working hours (19,90 h per week).

Project description

The multidisciplinary project "Conservation of open landscapes by targeted land and wildlife management" assesses the potential of using wild populations of red deer for the conservation of ecologically valuable biotopes of open landscapes through large-scale grazing. The processes within such a grazing system will be analyzed at the military training area Grafenwöhr in order to evaluate its efficiency and to test management options for its practical implementation. The work package "Vegetation Ecology" focuses on the interactions between vegetation and herbivory. It will compare grazed and ungrazed areas in different habitat types with and without the additional disturbance through fire or cutting.

Your responsibilities

- assessing productivity, forage quality and forage intake of red deer on the military training area Grafenwöhr, Bavaria
- analysis of vegetation relevés
- contribution to the overall project work, collaboration with other work packages
- data analysis, preparation of scientific publications and project reports

Your profile

- highly qualified master or diploma in agriculture, biology, environmental sciences or a related discipline
- experience in field research in agricultural or ecological sciences
- good knowledge of statistical analysis methods

- ability to both work self-reliantly and as part of a team, good organization and communication skills, high analytical and conceptual capabilities
- temporal flexibility regarding practical work at the experimental site at Grafenwöhr
- advanced command of English and German

This post is designed to foster researchers and scientists and give the successful applicant the opportunity to pursue a PhD degree.

The University of Göttingen is an equal opportunities employer and places particular emphasis on fostering career opportunities for women. Qualified women are therefore strongly encouraged to apply as they are underrepresented in this field. Disabled persons with equivalent aptitude will be favoured. Please apply by **05.04.2015**, using our online application portal (https://lotus2.gwdg.de/uni/uzdv/perso/knr_100041.nsf/bewerbung) to upload your application documents, including curriculum vitae and relevant certificates and transcripts.

If you have any questions, please contact **Prof. Dr. Johannes Isselstein** (jissels@gwdg.de)